21 April 69

Harold Weisberg

Harold:

In a few days I expect to have a surfeit of clips; you and Nichols are sending.

Nichols is sending dummy rounds of ammo. That suits me fine, for I do not need live stuff for what I now want to do. So don't try to send live ammo; I have no use for it.

Nichols said if you have genuine Western Cart. Co. (WCC) ammo, you have something he treasures and can use. I don't need it and it would be wasted on me.

Give it or sell it to Nichols-- he wants all he can get.

We are still working on the problem of how the dents were caused. This may involve huntings about until we find the right rifle or jiggling with the wrong rifle until we make it right. If I don't get positive results right off, I'll make adjustments and try to find out what variables determine whether cases are dented.

Oswald's rifle dented cases then, but there can be no assurance that it will dent cases now. It has been fired far too often ever again to serve as evidentiary material. It is not the same rifle now that it was then, and as evidence need not rank differently from any other M-C rifle. There is this about testing with that M-C now: positive ~~xxxx~~ results are conclusive, negative results are wothless either way. Thus if we find a bolt face or extractor mark that corresponds with mark on the cases, that is positive proof of contact. If bolt face or extractor does not correspond, it tells us nothing--neither positive or negative, for the character of the bolt face may have changed.

I gave you a slightly bum steer on the construction of the Peters bullet-- the effect is the same as I described, but the cross-section of the bullet is different:

There is just a bulge here that forms a ring on the inside of the bullet and locks the lower partof the bullet; keeps the rear of the bullet in tact while the forward end espands.

As I said, the effect is the same as I described before.

There is nothing new to report now. I have written more, but it is elaboration of what you already know. I'll sent it when it fits with other things.

Dick

BERNABEI